

Golden Tickets:

Golden ticket is forged TGT Kerberos ticket that can be used to request TGS ticket for any service on any computer. Mean this ticket allow the attacker to have access to any thing they want within the network.

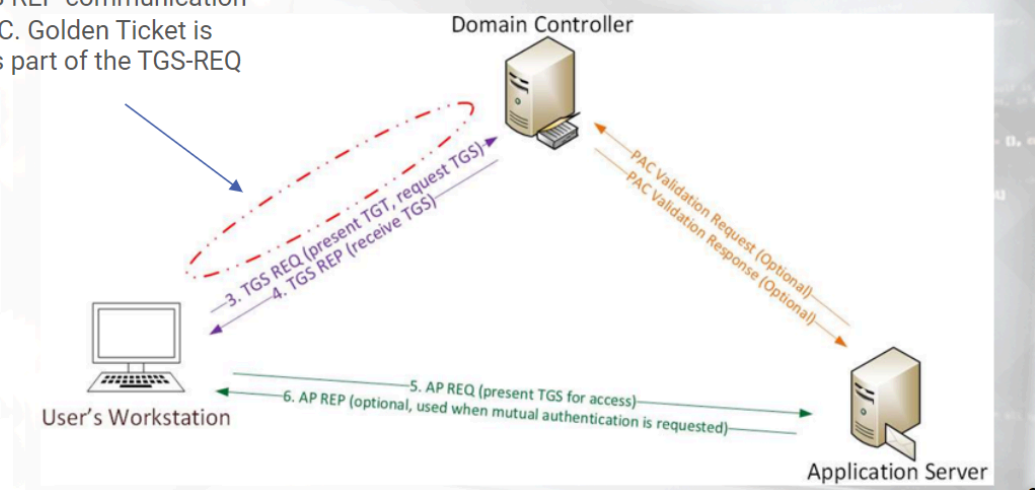
Golden ticket creation requirements:

- Domain Name
- Domain SID
- Domain KRBGT Account NTLM password hash
- User ID for impersonation even non-existing users

Mean here the attacker can use the KRBGT account hash that is responsible for Granting tickets for users, will use that account to grant them self any kind of ticket they want. And to get this KRBGT account hash, the attacker need to compromise the Domain control like have admin access to it and then read the NTDS.dit file which have all the hash for all the users and then it can grab that hash and use it to grant them self any kind of Ticket they want.

Golden Ticket (Forged TGT) Communication

No AS-REQ or AS-REP communication exists with the DC. Golden Ticket is sent to the DC as part of the TGS-REQ to get a TGS.



This means that attacker will not need to authenticate as a user, they will just give them self a golden ticket with a user ID they want to impersonate or non-existing user, and then they can use that ticket to request the TGS ticket so they can access services. As this ticket is privileged that allow the attacker to have access to anything, so they will get a TGS that gain them full access to that Service or resource that its TGS was requested.

Golden ticket is powerful, it allows the attacker to compromise anything in the network by getting the full access, like compromise any domain in the forest, and they can do this by abusing the SID history attribute, SID history gives ability to include in a Golden ticket or Silver one in any group in the AD forest and use it for authorization. So that mean attacker can abuse the SID attribute to include the Golden ticket or the Silver ticket in any AD forest domains group like the admins group, and then use that ticket for authorization in the entire forest.

The attacker uses the SID History attribute to make the ticket appear as if the user is a member of a specific group, such as the admin group.

For example an attacker gain access to the KRBTGT account password has, it can leverage its SID history, and then add the entire forest enterprise admins group to the Golden ticket, mean making the ticket valid in all domains leading to compromise of the Parent Domain.

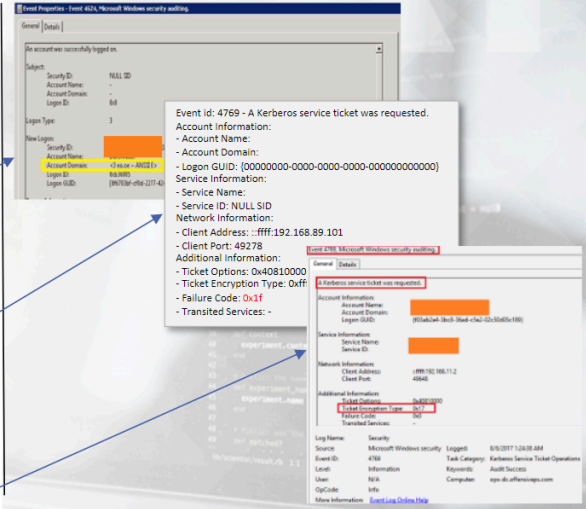
Detection:

As at first we said that the attacker will not need to authenticate as any user, they just give them self a ticket with any user ID to impersonate them. So we can hunt for any TGS request where there is not TGT request prior to it, mean we will look for any ticket that was obtained without the TGT request, like the user didn't authenticated to get the TGT and then Request the TGS, as that's how the Golden ticket is obtained. If we find any TGT that was obtained without the TGT request then it can be suspicious.

Detection

Golden Tickets are quite tricky to detect. The most reliable approach to detect Golden Tickets is to look for the existence of TGS requests with no prior TGT requests before them (within a reasonable time frame). If you find any, this may be related to a golden ticket attack. More specific, but less reliable approaches are:

1. Checking for the existence of anomalies in the following events. Event ID:4624 (Account Logon), Event ID: 4672 (Admin Logon) and Event ID: 4634 (Account Logoff). Specifically you may see "eo.oe.kiwi :)", "<3 eo.oe - ANSSI E-", a FQDN or nothing in the *Account Domain* field.
2. Identifying suspicious TGT tickets by comparing the *MaxTicketAge* from the domain policy to the difference in the *StartTime* and *EndTime* of the cached authentication ticket.
3. Checking for the existence of Event ID: 4769 (A Kerberos service ticket was requested) with a status code of 0x1f: *Integrity check on decrypted field failed*. The aforementioned will occur in the case of an attacker returning after a double reset of the KRBTGT password has taken place (part of eradication of a domain compromise).
4. Checking for tickets (like you did when defending against pass the ticket) or new logon events related to non existing users. Through a Golden Ticket attackers can impersonate anyone on the domain, including non existing users.
5. Checking for the existence of Kerberos tickets with RC4 encryption. They aren't commonly met on modern environments. (This will happen if attackers utilized the NTLM hash while creating the Golden Ticket)



1: Read the one Above, its important.

3: One thing to note, when we are recovering from the domain compromise, we have to reset the KRBTG account 2 times, the reason is to make the tickets that are given invalid. And if the attackers comes back to the network and try to use the golden ticket to get the TGS service ticket, we can check the Event ID 4769 (Kerberos service Ticket was requested) with status code of "0x1f" (decrypted field failed), this means the attacker used a invalid ticket to get a service TGS ticket to gain access to service but it failed as the ticket wasn't decrypted as the KRBTGT hash was changed.

4: like we said in the golden ticket, there is the user ID filed which indicates for which user this ticket is built for and attacker can impersonate any user and they might put a user ID that dosnt exist so if we see a non existing user logon attempts , it can indicate the golden ticket.

5: if the attacker used the NTLM hash while creating the golden ticket, then the encryption used for the creating is RC4 which in modern environment we don't use the RC4

Read the screen shot above